

From LtCol Mark R. Hollahan

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Families and Friends of Combat Logistics Battalion 22

It is fast approaching the end of October, and for your Marines and Sailors, it means we are back on ship and conducting maritime missions within the CENTRAL COMMAND area of responsibility.

Having conducted a successful backload of all personnel and equipment out of Kuwait, the next operation was a well-deserved liberty port visit to several ports within the Arabian Gulf. The Kearsarge and Ponce visited two Middle Eastern ports and the Gunston Hall visited Bahrain. All had unique opportunities to see and visit some interesting sites, sample the local fare and perform some valuable and rewarding community relations work. Most notably were the efforts of the Marines and Sailors aboard Ponce, who took the opportunity to help out at an Autistic Children's Center. Hats off to the Marines and Sailors who volunteered their liberty time to improve others' lives.

We have had a number of special events over the past month, notably some promotions. The following were promoted to the present ranks on 1 October; Capt Maureen Carr, Sgt Julian Bennett, Sgt Travis Lord, Sgt Travis Reddout, Sgt Trevor Williams, Cpl Preston Bach, Cpl Michael Banther, Cpl Peter Browne, Cpl Emily Dixon, Cpl Lesseme Ducatel, Cpl Jose Gutierrez, Cpl Don Hernandez, Cpl Samuel Ladson, Cpl Joseph Larkin, Cpl Karl Miller, Cpl Bobby Rawls, Cpl Christopher Rojas, Cpl Gary Rodriguez, Cpl Glen Saylor, Cpl Jonathan Vela, Cpl Christopher Wallace, Cpl Marcus Webb, Cpl Don Williams, and LCpl Timothy Pollington. Congratulations to those newly promoted Marines!

While on deployment, we are conducting some professional military education for some of our young leaders. There are several Corporals Courses, required professional development for our non-commissioned officers, being conducted over the next few weeks on several of the ships. Next month, I will have a list of our graduates from the various courses. We have also had a few of the team advance their navy careers with completion of their Fleet Marine Force Medical pin, the qualifying achievement for those Navy Corpsman who tend to our Marines. Also we have several of our corpsman achieve the enlisted surface warfare specialist designation. Congratulations to the following newly pinned FMF and ESW Sailors. FMF: HN Nicholas Krauss, HA Desean McCoy, HM2 Amata Gumnerdngam, HM3 Donald Lejeune. ESW: HMC Edward Magrill, HM1 Kelly Hood, HM2 Crystal Lopez, HM2 Jason Pippinger, HM3 Roger Roberts and HA Sean McKay. Congratulations and well done.

I remain immensely proud of the achievements and professional performance of the Marines and Sailors of CLB-22, and I am proud to be a part of this great battalion. I encourage you to continue visiting the 22nd MEU (SOC) website at www.22meu.usmc.mil for further details and photographs of the Battalion's events as they are posted during the deployment.

If you should have any concerns, questions or just need some moral support during our deployment, I encourage you to contact your Key Volunteer, Family Readiness Staff Non-commissioned Officer, our family hotline or this website (www.22meu.usmc.mil) to obtain the up-to-date information you need. Please keep in mind that official and factual information regarding the Battalion's movements, activities and operations will come solely from the 22nd MEU (SOC) Commanding Officer through me. Information sourced from me will only be delivered through the channels mentioned previously.

Thanks again for your prayers and support. My best wishes to all the families and friends back home.

Mark R. Hollahan
Lieutenant Colonel., USMC

Commanding Officer
Combat Logistics Battalion 22
22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable)